

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 PRS-01 INR-10 INRE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4708

UNCLAS PRAGUE 1602

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP, PFOR, CGEN, CZ, US

SUBJECT: SECVISIT/PRAGUE: AIRPORT DEPARTURE STATEMENTS BY
SECRETARY ROGERS AND MINISTER CHNOUPEK

1. FOLLOWING WAS NOT CLEARED BY SECRETARY'S PARTY PRIOR DEPARTURE.
2. DURING BRIEF AIRPORT DEPARTURE CEREMONY FOR SECRETARY ROGERS AFTERNOON JULY 9, CHNOUPEK THANKED SECRETARY FOR COMING TO CSSR AND TERMED SUCCESSFUL THE RESULTS OF DISCUSSIONS HELD EARLIER IN DAY. REITERATING HIS COMMENTS MADE AT MORNING SIGNING CEREMONY TH AT CONSULAR CONVENTION WAS FIRST STEP ON ROAD TO RESOLVING OUTSTANDING US-CSSR DIFFERENCES, CHNOUPEK ANNOUNCED SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER DATES FOR START OF NEGOTIATIONS ON CLAIMS AND ON CULTURAL, SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL EXCHANGES, RESPECTIVELY. MUTUAL RESPECT AND COOPERATION WERE POSSIBLE DESPITE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN BOTH COUNTRIES' SOCIAL SYSTEMS, HE ADDED, CITING SECRETARY'S MEETINGS WITH HUSAK AND SVOBODA ALONG WITH CONSULAR CONVENTION AS OPENING NEW CHAPTER IN US-CSSR RELATIONS. CHNOUPEK CLOSED WITH REFERENCE TO AGREEMENT TO MEET WITH SECRETARY IN NEW YORK DURING UPCOMING UNGA.

3. THE SECRETARY RESPONDED TO CHNOUPEK BY CHARACTERIZING CONSULAR CONVENTION AND HIS PRAGUE VISIT AS FIRST STEPS TO IMPROVED US-CSSR RELATIONS AND TO OPENING CONSULATES IN CHICAGO AND BRATISLAVA. FUNDAMENTAL DIFFERENCES

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REMAINED BETWEEN THE SOCIAL AND POLITICAL PHILOSOPHIES OF THE

TWO COUNTRIES, AND THESE DIFFERENCES MUST BE RECOGNIZED. HOWEVER,
THESE DIFFERENCES DID NOT PRECLUDE EFFORTS BY BOTH COUNTRIES
TO IMPROVE THEIR RELATIONS FOR THE SAKE OF THEIR PEOPLES AND FOR
THE PROSPECT OF INCREASED COOPERATION AND SECURITY THROUGHOUT
EUROPE. THE SECRETARY THEN CONFIRMED THAT NEGOTIATIONS WOULD BEGIN I
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PRAGUE SEPTEMBER 10 ON CLAIMS AND ON OCTOBER 22 IN WASHINGTON ON
EXCHANGES AGREEMENT. HE CLOSED COMMENTS WITH REFERENCE SIMILAR TO
CHNOUPEK'S RE THEIR PLANNED MEETING DURING UNGA.
SHERER

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